

April 24, 1924.

Dear Lovely, My Mary:-

Taking your name in vain today!

This is a secret, and you must guard it strictly. And in a letter I can tell it only in part and guardedly -- but you will take my word for the importance of the matter.

June 3 there is going to be a crowning entertainment for the great Biennial of the National Federation of Women's Clubs -- here. The great Auditorium will be packed from pit to ceiling with representative men from all other parts of the United States but this -- no local people at all, as it is exclusively for the guests.

In a very remarkable and classic program of dances, there is to be a six to eight-minute intermission; and in this time there will be room to put on at least two, and possibly three of my Spanish Songs -- probably "La Hamaca," "El Quelele," and "Adios Amores."

I was discussing today with the notable woman who has charge of the program how to get the result she wishes. We don't know of any soloist who can do the thing justice. I am looking out for a couple of pupils of Myra Belle Vickers; and if on trial Sunday their voices and delivery suit me, I have agreed to coach them in the Spanish.

But we need someone who KNOWS these songs, and can sing the Spanish con amore; and we want the guitar and mandolin accompaniment. And, in short, I think we shall want you and Doris. I don't know if your voices will fill that great Auditorium -- your instruments will, of course. It occurs to me that with you as the color-bearers, a good soprano and good contralto with strong voices could make a group that would be extremely effective.

There would be "nothing in it" beyond your expenses -- which would be your fares down, for of course I expect you to camp with me whenever you come to Los Angeles.



But it would be a chance at an audience which every musician in the city is crazy to get at -- and cannot. And, what is much more to you, it would be a wonderful propaganda for our beloved Songs.

I don't know whether your school will be done by Tuesday, June 3; but even if it is not, I am dead sure that your Board would give you a couple of days off for so important a missionary work for California to the most representative body of women from all over the United States that ever met in this State.

Write me instantter whether you would be favorable to this. If so, probably Dr. Dorothea Moore of this city will drive up to see you about it. She is a wonderful woman, and well worth not only your trust but your best co-operation.

I wonder also whether among your scholars there are one or two or three Spanish-California girls who sing well enough these songs to be worthy of such a program. How about that?

I genuinely hope that this may be brought about in some fashion -- that is, with you and Doris as the center, and whatever additions it may be found advisable to make.

Also, it is about time for you to come and visit your Uncle!

Kindest to your Mother and to Doris, and a great deal of love to yourself.

Always Your Friend,

P.S. The songs, of course, are to be sung in costume. I fancy Mrs. Harmer or Mmc. Dibblee will be very happy to outfit you. For only the modest black with the mantilla and comb are wanted -- none of the fiesta brilliant garbings. If they cannot, I will ask Mrs. Gram at Camulos, who can, I am sure, and will for my sake. If they cannot, the Management here will attend to it.